

Extension looks for Master Gardeners

K-State Research and Extension, the Northwest area office and Norton County Extension are seeking applicants for its Master Gardener Program. Master Gardeners are Kansas State University Research and Extension volunteers who enjoy volunteering and gardens. They learn and share their skills and knowledge to help others grow and learn about horticulture. Master Gardeners learn basic

horticulture in exchange for volunteer time. Gardeners receive a 40-hour short course, advance training, a resource manual and participate in field trips. The classes will be held in Grainfield and are from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. each Tuesday Feb. 3-March 16. Instructors will be state extension specialists and county extension agents. Topics will include general culture, soil fertility, insects, diseases,

annual and perennial flowers, trees, vegetables, fruits and nuts, household plants, turf and general maintenance and landscape design. Master Gardeners can volunteer for many activities. Some common volunteer projects are manning a telephone response line, attending a speakers bureau, hosting a demonstration garden, writing articles for the newspaper, teaching gardening to children and

participating in the county fair, or an educational garden tour. If you are interested in becoming a Master Gardener, please contact the Extension office at 877-5755. Deadline for applications is Tuesday, Dec. 30. The Norton County Extension Master Gardener program is a cooperative project between Norton County Extension and Kansas State University Research and Extension.

Warrant issued for arrest of Almena resident

A warrant was issued on Dec. 4 for the arrest of Julie Lynn Hilburn a.k.a. Julie Covington a.k.a. Anna Smith of Almena for three counts. Ms. Hilburn was charged with one count of taking contraband into the Norton Correctional Facility, one count of unlawful sexual relations, and

one count of theft for illegally taking sick leave and maternity leave benefits. Ms. Hilburn made her first appearance before District Magistrate Judge Deb Anderson on Dec. 8 and was released on \$45,000 bond. Her preliminary hearing will be Wednesday.

Accidents keep officers hopping

On Nov. 10, the Norton Police Department responded to an accident near the intersection of Jones and Warsaw streets. Corey J. Look, 16, Norton, was driving a 1992 Mercury Sable south on Jones when a 1992 Oldsmobile, driven by Shawn E. Shewey, 16, Norton, hit the southbound vehicle. Shewey was attempting to turn right, and struck the passenger door of the Sable. Over \$500 in damages were reported. Both drivers were wearing their seat belts and there were no injuries.

On Nov. 13, Tammy L. Jenkins, 38, Norton, was driving a 1994 Oldsmobile Riviera south on U.S. 283 when a deer ran out of the east ditch and struck the vehicle. The Riviera, registered to Kenneth A. Cadwalader, Almena, received over \$500 in damages. Ms. Jenkins was wearing her seat belt and was not injured.

A mishap occurred in the parking lot of Norton Livestock on Nov. 13 when Stephen G. Washburn, 57, Norton, backed a 1992 Ford pickup into a parked 1997 Ford pickup, registered to Paul Davis of Prairie View. Damages were not reported.

Another backing accident occurred on Nov. 18 when Curtis M. Luehrs, 50, Norton, attempted to back out of a private driveway along the 600 block of N. Grant Street. Mr. Luehrs struck a parked 1988 Chevrolet pickup, registered to Midwest Energy of Hays. Over \$500 in damages were reported. Mr. Luehrs was not wearing his seat belt but was not injured.

On Nov. 20, a deer accident occurred when Justin Scheimo, 19, Norton, was traveling north on U.S. 283 and a deer came out of the west ditch and struck the 1996 Ford Thunderbird he was driving. Damages were over \$500 but Mr. Scheimo was not injured.

Another deer accident occurred on Nov. 22 when a deer jumped out of the south ditch of K383 and struck an eastbound 2003 Honda Odyssey, being driven by Bernhard Wetzel, 48, of Chandler, Ariz. Mr. Bernhard was wearing a seat belt and was not injured. Damages to the Honda were over \$500.

On Nov. 27, Terry Smothers, 39, Norton, was driving a 1991 Honda Accord north on U.S. 283 and struck a deer, which jumped out of the west ditch. The Accord sustained over \$500 in damages. Mr. Smothers was wearing his seat belt, and was not injured.

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We are proud to bring high-quality phone and data services to our family, friends and neighbors, and we appreciate our connection with the Norton community for the past 100 years.

Darin Miller
Director, External Affairs



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Linda Wahlmeier
Agency, Inc.
111 W. Washington
Norton,
Kansas
785-877-5802

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NA-07488 Rev. 10/02